

Date: April 24, 2003

Author: Fetzer Memorial Trust

Category: Trust Histories

John E Fetzer Memorial/ILM Trust Planning Retreat

PAST TRUST ACTIVITIES

FINANCIAL

- 1) Financial stewardship
 - Received **\$32.7** million from John Fetzer's estate *over*
 - Paid out **\$24.6** million in program expenditures from 1991 – 2002
 - Current endowed value of **\$56** million
- 2) Resolved estate complications avoiding millions in liabilities.
- 3) Resolved litigation, managed and sold apartment complex in Florida.
- 4) Resolved litigation, managed and sold building in Canada, transforming a net liability of \$3.5 million to a profit of \$4.4 million.
- 5) Researched, packaged and competitively bid and sold Arizona property, originally appraised at \$0.8 million for \$2.7 million.

PROGRAMATIC

- 1) Initiated projects to document and preserve John Fetzer's legacy
 - a. Initiated the archive project at Institute
 - b. Commissioned a book on John Fetzer's baseball career
 - c. Commissioned a book on John Fetzer's spiritual life
 - d. Initiated oral histories
 - e. Initiated a museum of John Fetzer at the Institute
 - f. Worked on the redesign of the Fetzer Business Center display
 - g. Developed support to nominate John Fetzer to the Baseball Hall of Fame
 - h. Sponsored the induction of "The Corner" (Michigan and Trumbell) into the Michigan Sports Hall of Fame.
- 2) Conducted a series of invited speakers to discuss aspects of spirituality
- 3) Assisted Institute and new trustees in understanding John Fetzer's mission and legacy
- 4) Avoided extensive litigation and expense, and initiated program on Healing and The Law with a \$300,000 seed donation, which enured to benefit of the Institute.
- 5) Facilitated preservation of spiritual heritage in Montana Indian tribes.

CURRENT TRUST ACTIVITIES

- 1) History committee projects
 - a. Oral history
 - b. John Fetzer book on spiritual life
- 2) Deep engagement with Institute trustees to continue to foster the mission and legacy of John Fetzer.
- 3) Maintain the central focus of Spirit at the center of all Institute activities.
- 4) To provide guidance and deep engagement with the International Center for Healing and the Law. (MCG is VP and chair of board of advisors in accord with consultation with RFL)
- 5) Monthly trust meetings to provide guidance and advice
- 6) Act as a bridge between ILM and the Institute

Funds received in Memorial Trust

25	original balance 1992
6.2	} subsequent receipts: source PF 990
.2	
.4	
.45	
.5	
<hr/> 32.7	Total

Qualified Distributions (payments to Institute & other designated beneficiaries)

24.6 = source spreadsheet from PF 990

Note: does not include management & investment fees.

56 mm = Fund balance

SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE TRUSTS AND THEIR SUPPORTED ORGANIZATIONS

A discussion held at the Institute offices on 12/5/2000 with Robert F. Lehman, Bruce F. Fetzer, Thomas J. Beaver, Michael C. Gergely, Louis G. Leeburg, James R. Gordon, and Thomas S. Inui. The following summarizes the discussion by category.

Core qualifications and capabilities of the trust:

- 1) Its an organization dedicated to spiritual practice
- 2) Each individual's considerable exposure to John Fetzer's discipline created context for John's intent
- 3) The trust could bridge the activities of the Fetzer entities
- 4) The trust has flexibility to vision without constraint
- 5) The personality and spirit of John Fetzer continues to grow even after 1991
- 6) A multiple organization structure promotes plurality of ideas

Vision of wholeness (qualities and values):

- 1) Great universities work very hard at interdepartmental collaboration
- 2) Common vision of John Fetzer
- 3) No one part is greater than the whole
- 4) Each "part" of the vision needs to be strong with reverence to the whole
- 5) Strong communication: telling the truth of who we are
- 6) Equality and respect
- 7) Relationships are based upon vision
- 8) Fear about money... can obstruct loving

Structural benefits of the trusts:

- 1) Flexibility in grantmaking
- 2) Contractual savings on overhead charges
- 3) Separate organizations compound asset growth faster than combined entities
- 4) Provide a communications function
- 5) Wholeness exists at the level of relationships to individuals rather than to organizations

- STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL -

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Trustees:
Fetzer Memorial & ILM Trusts
Fetzer Institute

FROM: Rob Lehman

SUBJECT: Purpose of Fetzer Memorial & ILM Trusts

DATE: July 2, 1992

In September - October, 1990, John Fetzer had several conversations with me about the purposes of the trust he had established for the Institute and ILM. He had first asked me to serve as the sole trustee of the trust, but decided later that a small board of trustees, with me as chair, would be an approach that would more closely approximate his purposes.

The trust would pay out to the Institute and ILM over a 20 year period. The rate of pay out was left to the discretion of the trustees of the trust. The reasons for establishing such a 20 year trust, instead of having the corpus paid directly from the estate to the Institute and ILM, were characteristic of the unique mind and spirit of John Fetzer.

Memorandum

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July 2, 1992

The trust would carry out its purposes through its trustees. John told me that the great spiritual insights of his later life had arisen from what he referred to as the "Monday Night Group." This group met during the 1970-80s to study the Course in Miracles and to discuss esoteric spirituality. It was this group that gave birth to the idea for the Institute and ILM. He wanted to create a similar group as the trustees of the trust. The trustees would, in a way, institutionalize this spiritual dialogue for the purpose of envisioning freedom of spirit. The trustees would have some overlapping membership with the Institute and ILM, and thereby be links to both organizations. They would be, in a phrase, silent carriers of the spirit. (I remember joking that often a carrier of a disease doesn't exhibit the symptoms while still infecting others. He said, "well, I guess I've got the right group as trustees!")

The trustees of the trust would help to create a spiritual bridge between the Institute and ILM. John said he had learned that the two organizations needed to be separate during this 20 year period, but he felt strongly that there needed to be a bridge between the two. The bridge would provide spiritual guidance; subtly moving the work of the two organizations toward the Age of the Archangel Michael. He looked to the relationship between Jim Gordon and me to be a key in this process.

Memorandum

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He talked to me about the important purposes being served by the 20 year trust:

John believed that toward the end of the 20 year period (his date was the year 2011, exactly 20 years from his death) there would be a series of critical world events that would usher in the Age of the Archangel Michael; or as John sometimes described it in less esoteric terms, the Age of Freedom of Spirit. He saw the Institute and ILM as two institutions that were designed to prepare the earth for this period, and to survive as evolved models for this new age.

Of course, neither the Institute or ILM was to have the Age of the Archangel Michael as its public agenda. Both would carry out their preparatory roles through the secular and spiritual purposes that had been defined, without explicit attention to the coming age.

The trust, however, would be concerned directly with this esoteric purpose. It would do so by creating a spiritual vision of this new age.

Memorandum

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John was very clear that the individuals selected as trustees for the trust had been brought into his life to carry out this specific purpose. When he moved from the idea of having me alone as the trustee to having the five he selected, he felt that he had made a spiritual realignment that would sustain his consciousness during this 20 year period. John saw Jim Gordon as the master teacher of this group of trustees, just as he had been John's spiritual advisor.

John mentioned only one other reason for the 20 year trust. He told me that, if for some reason the Institute or ILM went off course or otherwise were not able to fulfill their missions, the trust would serve as a back-up to carry on the missions.

/kmc

JOHN E. FETZER MEMORIAL AND ILM TRUSTS STATEMENTS OF PURPOSE 5/26/99

1. To enhance the spirit and purposes of the Institute and ILM as a community of freedom.
2. To articulate, share and promote the Fetzer vision. And to work within the Fetzer Community to develop processes, values and capacities that foster the continual renewal and discernment of that vision.
3. To design, develop and carry out all necessary activities to ensure the fulfillment of these purposes.
4. To support each other in our personal and professional development in order to maintain our community of freedom.

September 22, 1999 Meeting with Joint Committee of Beneficiaries of the John E. Fetzer Memorial Trust and the John E. Fetzer Inner Light Ministries Trust Fund

Purpose: The Memorial and Inner Light Ministries Trust have been operating since being created and funded in 1991 as directed by the estate plan of the late John E. Fetzer. John Fetzer believed that during the first years of the third millennium there would be a series of critical world events that would usher in the Age of the Archangel Michael. His decisions with regard to the creation of his philanthropic organizations and selection of trustees were made in the context of this overriding esoteric understanding of human history. He specifically established the Fetzer Memorial and ILM Trusts for three reasons:

- 1) To explore directly, the esoteric purposes of what he described as the Age of the Archangel Michael and Freedom of Spirit
- 2) To help create a spiritual bridge between the Fetzer Institute and ILM
- 3) To serve as a back-up to carry on the missions of the Institute and ILM in the event that they were not able to fulfill their missions.

John Fetzer selected the trustees of the trust because he believed that they had been uniquely brought into his life to carry out these specific purposes (see attachment A "Rob Lehman July 2, 1992 memo RE: Purpose of the Trust")